



Smithsonian Institution

Office of General Counsel

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: 75576-25968685@requests.muckrock.com

August 22, 2019

Lawrence M. Coclough
MuckRock News

RE: Your Request for Smithsonian Records (request number 53351)

Dear Mr. Coclough:

This responds to your request, dated and received by the Smithsonian Institution Archives on June 20, 2019, for any records pertaining to “lynchings that have occurred within the United States.” Your request was forwarded to this Office on August 20, 2019 for response to you on behalf of the Institution as a whole. The Smithsonian responds to requests for records in accordance with Smithsonian Directive 807 – Requests for Smithsonian Institution Information (SD 807) and applies a presumption of disclosure when processing such requests. The policy is posted on our website at <http://www.si.edu/OGC/Records-Requests>.

Please be advised that our records disclosure policy, SD 807, does not require that we perform research in response to a request. For your information, the Smithsonian makes a wealth of information available publicly on its website. For example, you may wish to visit https://www.si.edu/search?edan_q=lynching, which includes links to images, articles, and other materials regarding lynching. In addition, please explore our collections database at <http://collections.si.edu/search/>, our research information center at <https://sir.isi.edu/>, and the resources made available by the National Museum of African American History and Culture at <https://nmaahc.si.edu/>.

This concludes the Smithsonian’s response to your request.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Sanet".

Jessica Sanet
Assistant General Counsel

You have the right to appeal a partial or full denial of your request. Your appeal must be in writing, addressed to the Smithsonian Institution Office of General Counsel at the address below, and made within sixty days from the date of this response letter. Your letter must explain your reason(s) for the appeal. The Smithsonian Under Secretary for Finance and Administration will decide your appeal and will respond to you in writing. You also have the right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services, within the National Archives and Records Administration.